

# Commerce City - W. 88th Avenue: I-76 NB Ramps to Highway 2

## Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Design

### Quick Fact Sheet



**Prepared:** January 2019

1. What initiated this project? What planning documents support it?
  - Frequent backups at the railroad crossing and on W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue during rush hour have been reported. W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements are mentioned throughout the City's 2010 Comprehensive Plan, including a new bridge over the railroad. A widened path for bicycles is outlined in the City's 2012 Walk.Bike.Fit plan.
2. What phase of the project is going on now?
  - Environmental Assessment and 15% Preliminary Design.
3. What is this phase of the project costing?
  - \$1.1 million.
4. What additional funding will it take to get the project through Final Design?
  - \$2.5 million.
5. What is the estimated cost to construct the project?
  - \$35 - \$39 million.
6. Is there funding for construction?
  - Grant applications are being prepared to gain funding.
7. What is the schedule for this phase?
  - The schedule is to have Federal Highway Administration acceptance of the Environmental Assessment and 15% Preliminary Design complete by the end of 2019.
8. How long will it take to complete Final Design?
  - 1 year – through 2020 if we start immediately after the 15% Preliminary Design is complete.
9. When could construction start?
  - 2021.
10. How long would construction last? Would W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue be closed during that time?

- Construction could last 2 years. W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue would remain open with one lane in each direction during that time.

11. What is an Environmental Assessment?

- The Environmental Assessment is a study process required for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and to secure state and/or federal funding. It involves documentation and analysis of a range of alternatives; consideration of impacts on community and environmental resources; and engagement with the public, stakeholders, and resource agencies.

12. What specific environmental factors are being looked at?

- The key resources include:
  - i. Noise
  - ii. Historic properties (like the railroad, canal, and possibly other properties)
  - iii. Properties and businesses
  - iv. Socioeconomic (especially disadvantaged populations)

13. What will the widened section look like?

- W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be widened to two lanes each direction with a raised median, a sidewalk on one side, concrete path on one side, and turn lanes as needed.

14. Will there be on-street bike lanes?

- The Walk.Bike.Fit plan recommends W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue to have a widened concrete path on one side for bikes. The design team agrees with this because of the amount of truck traffic on W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

15. Will there be bus stops close to FedEx Ground?

- RTD does not currently have plans for a bus route on W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Highway 2 is a potential future bus route. The existing bus stop at Brighton Road and W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue will remain.

16. What properties will be affected?

- Affected properties will be identified by the end of the 15% design, but detailed impacts won't be outlined until early in the Final Design phase.

17. What is being done at Rosemary Street?

- There will be a future study to determine improvements for Rosemary. During this W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue project the operational character of the intersection will be improved.

18. Is the 88 Drive-in Theatre In going to remain?

- W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements are not expected to affect the viability of the drive-in.

19. What's being done at I-76?

- Nothing is currently planned as part of this project.

20. Will drainage in the area be improved?

- Local drainage will be improved as part of the project. Regional drainage is being coordinated with the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, a potential funding partner.

21. Will there be public meetings?

- Yes. The first one is planned for February 2019.

22. How do I provide input into the project?

- The public will have numerous opportunities to engage and provide input throughout the duration of the environmental assessment. These opportunities will be promoted through the website, social media, door hangers and text message and include:
  - i. Two public meetings
  - ii. Attendance at 10 existing events throughout Commerce City
  - iii. Interactive online comment map
  - iv. Online surveys

23. Will my access or property be affected? How do I find out?

- Access to your property will remain open throughout the environmental assessment phase. If access is restricted once the project enters the construction phase, affected property owners will be notified far in advance of the impact.